

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

AKIN, Todd (Republican)
Representative, 2nd District, Missouri
Elected 2000 to the 107th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congress



BACKGROUND

Born: New York City, New York - 5 July 1947
Home: St. Louis, Missouri
Marital status: Married (Lulli) - 6 children
Religion: Christian
Education: Worchester Polytechnic Institute, B.S., 1971; Covenant Theological Seminary, M.Div, 1985
Military: US Army, 1972-80 (Army Combat Engineers)
Profession: University lecturer; steel company manager; marketing executive
Political: Defeated Ted House (D) with 55% of the vote to succeed Rep James M. Talent (R). Reelected in 2002 with 67% of the vote. Missouri House, 1989-2000.

Rep Akin, is a social and fiscal conservative.

In the 107th Congress, stated that one of his top priorities would be rebuilding the US military. Elected one of two vice presidents of the Republican freshman class. Hoping for a seat on the HASC, made sure the leadership was aware of his engineering background, his military background, and, most importantly, that Boeing is in his district. He is committed to supporting his primary defense industry constituent, which builds fighter aircraft like the F-15 Eagle at its plant in St. Louis. Remarked "we need to be supportive of our armed services." Believes that this Congress will seek to improve military readiness and technical competence of the force. Released delegation letter asking Navy not to reduce F-18 production. Cosponsored Rep Lindsay Graham's bill to amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to protect unborn children from assault and murder (H.R. 503). Supported the President's proposal for substantial increases in defense spending and homeland security. Drawing attention to funding in the FY 03 DoD Auth for a joint replacement aircraft for the EA-6B "Prowler," insisted "we cannot move quickly enough to replace the EA-6B." Complained that DoD's stockpile of precision-guided munitions were at half of their required inventories. Strongly supported national missile defense: "Many foreign countries are getting increasingly able to fire missiles that move higher and faster, which means that as they develop more range we become part of their target area." Supports the President's thorough defense review.

Additional: Marketed computer systems for IBM and managed a steel manufacturing company. Taught international marketing, early American history, and US Gov't. Boeing is in his district. His father is a World War II veteran who served under Gen George S. Patton. His oldest son attends the US Navy Academy. As an undergraduate, was a member of the ROTC.
AF Bases: Lambert-St Louis IAP (ANG)

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES - Subcs on Tactical Air & Land Forces; Terrorism
SCIENCE

SMALL BUSINESS